

March 2010

HF Happenings 397

Welcome to HF Happenings -
Barry Els, Gordon Harris, ZS2GH,
Kevin Mc Donald, ZS6KMD, and
Thomas Scott, ZS6TJS



SARL VHF/UHF Contests

The first leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contests is scheduled for the weekend of 19 to 21 February 2010. There are two contests running during the weekend.

The VHF/UHF Digital contest is made up of two sessions. Session 1 - Friday 19 March 16:00 UTC to Saturday 20 March 12:59 UTC and Session 2 - Saturday 20 March 13:00 UTC to Sunday 21 March 12:00 UTC.

The VHF/UHF Analogue contest takes place from Saturday 20 March 10:00 UTC to Sunday 21 March 10:00 UTC.

The following frequency bands may be used - 50 to 51,5 MHz; 70 to 70,300 MHz; 144 to 145,55 MHz; 432 to 433,6 MHz; 1296 to 1296,5 MHz and higher frequencies as per band plan.

Digital contest - the exchange will consist of a call sign and grid sub-square (6 digits). Signal reports are not required.

Analogue - the exchange consists of the call signs, signal report and six-digit grid locator.

In addition, the most important - Read the 2010 SARL Contest Manual.

The QSL Story

In HF Happenings 396, we told of the QSL card that would be presented to Mannie de Beer, ZS6AK, ex ZS6AJH.

Seen in the photo is Pam, ZS6APT, chairman of the Centurion ARC presenting the ZS6AJH QSL Card (for a 40 m CW QSO on 22 February 1954 with ZS2JI [SK]) to Mannie, ZS6AK.



Changes to the Radio Regulations

It appears that ICASA is ready to publish the draft radio regulations in the Government Gazette; it could even be early next week.

As soon as the SARL receives a copy of the draft regulations, it will be posted on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za. Public comment will be invited which will be considered by ICASA before the regulations will be finalised.

The SARL Council will study the draft regulations and, if necessary, will make comment and will seek an opportunity to present its views at a public hearing. A president's net will be convened to get as much input as possible to the



position that the SARL will put forward to ICASA.

Although the SARL requested that the organisation make input into the draft, the ICASA Councillor charged with rewriting the outdated regulations decided that once the draft is published for comment, it is the appropriate time for the SARL to make input.

QSL Bureau

Mongolian Radio Sport Federation [MRSF]. I received an e-mail from Bat-Erdene Zevgee, JT1CS, Secretary of MRSF, informing me that MRSF have set up a QSL Bureau. The postal address for the Mongolian Radio Sport Federation QSL Bureau is MRSF QSL Bureau, PO Box 573, Ulaanbaatar 16092, Mongolia.

Aruba Amateur Radio Club [AARC]. From IARU Region 2, I received news that the Aruba Amateur Radio Club has a new QSL Bureau address. Aruba Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 614, Aruba.

There is no need to include a city name informs Emily Thiel, P43E, who is the QSL bureau manager and treasurer at AARC.

World Amateur Radio Day

World Amateur Radio Day [WARD] will be celebrated on Sunday 18 April 2010 - 'Amateur Radio: Combining communication experience with modern digital techniques.' Is your radio club going to be active, displaying amateur radio to the public at a local shopping centre or mall, making QSOs with stations in Southern Africa or further afield?

International Marconi Day Awards Programme

The 23rd International Marconi Day will take place on 24 April. Although not a contest, awards can be obtained if you pre register for the event. In addition, in order to qualify as an award station, operations should take place from a site that either used Marconi equipment prior to his death in 1937 or from which Marconi carried out experiments during the same period. Full details can be found at www.gb4imd.org.uk

Hints and Kinks: Painting Letters



This view shows two ICOM 706 radios, one with the painted letters (bottom) and one without (top).

This idea comes to us from Dave Price, K4KDP, of Goldsboro, North Carolina. As I get older, I find it is harder to read some of the smaller print on my radios. The ICOM 706 is a good example. The radio connectors are marked ANT 1, ANT 2, MIC and DC 13.8V, just to name a few. These are marked by either raised letters or letters that are indented into the radio housing. I found that if I paint these letters white, they show up much better on the black metal case. There is a fairly easy way to paint the letters white using cotton swabs with wooded sticks.

Break off the cotton tip on some of the swabs until you have about six of them with sharp points at the break area. Throw away the cotton tip and use only





the wooden stick to paint with. Now spray a small puddle of white paint onto a piece of cardboard. The cardboard will absorb some of the moisture. Just as the paint starts to thicken dip the pointed end of the stick into the paint and then gently tap the paint into the indented area of the radio housing. On raised letters, I use the blunt end of the stick, repeating the same process. It is best to use very little paint and repeat the process of dipping into the paint and tapping the paint onto the letters many times.

You will find you have to replace the stick several times and spray a new puddle of paint when the old puddle gets too thick. You will also need to have some small paper towels and rubbing alcohol close by to quickly clean up any mistakes. I strongly recommend you practice this on some junk metal before attempting this on your expensive radios. I have also used this same trick on unpainted numbers for my Chevy truck 4 wheel drive shift mounted on the truck floor and for my watch bezel to make the unpainted numbers easier to read. [ARRL Letter]

ZS1AGI/B on the Air

The Garden Route Radio Club's 40 metre beacon, ZS1AGI/B, near George is back on the air on 7,025 MHz with 200 mW maximum output. The beacon is very useful to determine whether the band is open to the Southern Cape. Reception reports will be appreciated; use the e-mail address for ZS1GRC as listed in the SARL Call Book.

R1ANF Beacon Operational

The Deutscher Amateur Radio Club reports that, after a long odyssey from Germany to the Vostok base (R1ANC) in Antarctica, including a failed start connected with huge logistic problems, the beacon finally was put into operation at the Russian Antarctic base Bellinghausen, R1ANF, on King George Island (belonging to the South Shetlands) on 8 March.

Oleg, ZS1ANF, (UA1PBA, ex-R1ANF), picked up the beacon during a trip to the Antarctic Logistic Center International (ALCI) on Novo Runway and installed it right away at R1ANF after his return to King George Island.

The beacon consists of an IC-706, AT-180 antenna tuner, a switching power supply, a PROCOM HF-5000 vertical antenna and a GPS synchronized controller. The beacon is working on 14101.0 kHz and transmits the following text every full minute "VVV R1ANF ANTBEAP R1ANF AR". (Carrier signal reduced similar to the NCDXF beacons, starting with 100 watts)

Another beacon is ready to be installed at the Novolazarevskaya base and shall be active on the same frequency using the call sign R1AND. A few more beacons will be set up with the Antarctic Beacon Project (ANTBEAP) to explore the wave propagation in the Antarctic region. Any SWL reports are very welcome and should be sent to Dominik, DL5EBE.

Marion Island, ZS8M (Update)

Pierre, ZS1HF, will activate Marion Island (AF-021) as ZS8M at the end of April. Activity will be mainly SSB and Digital (he states, "Sorry, no CW.") He will be working on the island for one year as a radio/electronics technician once the supply ship "SA Agulhas" returns to Cape Town. Pierre informs OPDX that he is currently still very busy with some technical and team training. Training includes maintenance on the Wx equipment and hydrogen generator, with team training including fire fighting, cooking and first aid. The ship leaves Cape Town on 8 April, and he will arrive on Marion Island some 6 days later. The ship will unload food and cargo, and then leave 4 weeks later once the scientists have completed their work. Once the ship and scientists leave, he will be on the air. Pierre tells OPDX that this is his first long voyage. He has sailed before, but on some of the SA Navy ships and usually on much shorter trips. On Marion Island, Pierre's job will be the resident radio and electronics technician for; HF, VHF, Wx station, Hy-





drogen generator, IT LAN, satellite system and all the other smaller systems that use 12 or 220V. He will be assisting the engineers with technical support. Pierre states, "One of the engineers will be writing her exam on the island, which will be a first for the island."

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

One hundred registrations have been received so far at the website illw.net for this year's event on the weekend of 21 and 22 August. It will be the 11th annual weekend run by Scotland's Ayr Radio Group, GMOAYR. The registrations to date are from 19 countries with nearly half of them from Germany and Australia who always strongly support this fun event. Other countries include Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Honduras, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Scotland, Sweden, USA and Wales.

It is only early days and organisers of the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend, the Ayr Radio Group, are hopeful that with improved HF propagation the record of 442 registrations set last year could be beaten. To register or check out the lighthouses already registered, visit the official website illw.net. **Where are the Southern African lighthouses?**

The "VK9 Award"

VK4TJF James Fleming on behalf of sponsors "Redcliffe and District Amateur Radio Club." tell us this new non-WIA award is now operational. Contact each of the "VK9" DXCC entities using any or all bands and all modes. Band and mode endorsements are available on request from the postal address in the text edition, again a note it is NOT the Redcliffe Clubs address but James home address to save time and manpower. SWLs OK, though their applications must show the call signs of both stations heard.

The VK9 DXCC entities are - Mellish Reef; Lord Howe Island; Norfolk Island; Christmas Island; Willis Island and Cocos Keeling Island. Send GCR list and fee of 5 AUD, 2 IRC's or \$US5 to James Fleming, VK4TJF, 4 Murchison Ct., Murrumba Downs, 4503 QLD Australia.

Cam Hartford, N6GA, Named CQ Magazine QRP Editor

(Hicksville, NY March 16, 2010) - Cam Hartford, N6GA, of Claremont, California, has been named QRP Editor of CQ Amateur Radio magazine, Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, announced today. Hartford succeeds Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, who passed away in January. Ingram's final bi-monthly QRP column appears in the April issue of CQ. Hartford's first column will be in the June issue.

QRP is the art of low-power ham radio communication. QRP enthusiasts typically use 5 watts or less to make contacts around the world. Many also enjoy building their own portable low-power gear and/or communicating from remote, temporary, locations.

Hartford, who works for book publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, has been a ham since 1961, when he was originally licensed in Ohio as WN8DJX. After moving to California, he was issued WA6PTX; then on upgrading to Extra Class, was able to choose his current call sign of N6GA.

Cam has been active in low power operating for more than 20 years. From 1989 - 1991, he served on the Board of Directors of QRP/ARCI, the QRP Amateur Radio Club International. He also served as that organization's Contest Manager from 1993 - 1999. Since then, Hartford says, he has spent his ham radio time "building and operating little radios" and trying to find "the perfect combination of radios, logging computers, power sources, wire antenna arrays and hot chocolate for a very excellent QRP Field Day."

CQ Editor Rich Moseson said, "I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with Cam, who comes highly recommended by well-known QRPers and CQ columnists Richard Fisher,





KI6SN, and Rich Arland, K7SZ. Cam will have large shoes to fill, following in the footsteps of the late Dave Ingram, K4TWJ. Yet, one of Dave's strengths was his ability to draw on the talents and experiences of our readers, and I am sure that they will continue to provide the same sort of input to Cam as he continues our QRP column."

New release of MULTIPSK (v 4.17)

Patrick, F6CTE, has issued a new release of MultiPSK, version 4.17. It is available on his web site at <http://f6cte.free.fr>. The main mirror site belongs to Earl, N8KBR, and it can be found at <http://www.eqth.info/multipsk/index.html> (click on "United States Download Site"). Another mirror site is Terry's at <http://g90swl.co.uk/multipsk/>

Multipsk associated to Clock are freeware programs but with functions submitted to a licence (by user key). This software and the updates are well worth a try.

The Bottle Shop Net

The Bottle Shop Net was formed in recognition of the large number of older valve radios still in use around Australia. Gavin, VK7VTX, on Flinders Island and Barry, VK3MBW, in Lara, Victoria, usually hosts the Bottle Shop Net. It happens at 8.00 pm most weeknights [09:00 UTC], on 3,590 MHz LSB - Region 3 HF Band plan.

Most radio amateurs know that a "bottle" in radio terms is a reference to the glass thermionic vacuum tubes that formed the basis of radios before the development of solid state devices. Valves are still in relatively common use today in high power amplifiers both HF and VHF. Older solid-state radios are also welcome on the net and in order to be better fit in they are referred to as "stubbies." Everyone interested in firing up an older radio is more than welcome to join in the fun and chat and swap tales of the radios being used.

There is a buy-swap-or-sell session before the 9:00 pm [10:00 UTC] close of the net. Visit <http://www.ntarc.net/nets.html> for more information.

Remembering the unit men - Hertz

Hello, I am Jim Linton, VK3PC, with the latest in a series of brief looks at those who made discoveries and have their names as units of measurement. The German physicist Heinrich Hertz made important contributions to humankind's knowledge of electromagnetism.

During experiments in 1887 and 88 he proved the existence of radio waves that had previously been mathematically shown by James Clerk Maxwell.

Hertz used a spark gap across an inductor and a loop antenna to send a signal to a loop of wire that had a small gap. Reports of his work inspired Marconi who recognised the commercial value of the discovery.

Hertz was the one who demonstrated how radio waves travelled through the ether. They became rightly known as Hertzian waves.

His original experiment was duplicated in many countries much to the amazement who witnessed this scientific discovery, and leading to the era of early wireless experimentation.

In the ultimate recognition, by the 1970s the term 'cycles per second' as a measurement of frequency kilocycles and Megacycles was replaced with the unit Hertz.

DX from Africa

Chad, TT. Elke, TT8ET, is active on 20 metres using SSB around 07:30 to 08:00 UTC. QSL direct.





Democratic Republic Of Congo, 9Q. Operators Anton, ON6NL, and Henk, ON4AHF, have been on the air as 9Q0AR/6 and 9Q0HQ/6, respectively, using the club station's call signs in South Kivu region. They plan to be there for about another 10 days. Both are currently working in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with the organization "Doctors without Borders" (Medecins Sans Frontieres - <http://www.msf.org>) for about the past two weeks.

Activity has been mainly on 40 and 20 metres SSB using a FT-897 and wire antennas. There is a possibility of some CW. It has been reported that their workload includes setting up repeaters within the DRC. Over the past weekend, they conducted classes for the locals who are interested in Amateur Radio, and the classrooms had about 20 - 25 individuals. QSL 9Q0AR/6 via ON6NL and 9Q0HQ/6 via ON4AHF.

Annobon Island, 3C0, (Update/Delay). The following was announced on 12 March, about a delay for the April 3COC DXpedition (edited): "Today we received a statement from Equatorial Guinea where we are told that in the coming days they will start some repairs on the runway on Annobon, and therefore; no one can not enter or leave on any flights from the island. It seems that there is hope that the work will last two to three months. Although we are prepared to leave for Africa at any time, we are forced to delay our stay at Annobon until work on the runway is completed. Access to the island of Annobon is by air since the sea is of great difficulty, slow and without regularity. All news and information will be posted on our site; we hope you all understand these problems are beyond our control. We want Annobon 3COC to be activated as soon as possible. Thank you on behalf of the entire 2010 3COC Annobon Island Team." For more details and updates, visit the 3COC Web page at <http://www.3c0c-annobon.com>

Morocco, 5C, (Reminder). Alfredo, IK7JWX, and a team of operators will activate the city of Essaouira (Cap Sim Lighthouse ARLHS MOR-019, Grid Square IM51), Agadir (Grande Jetee/Jetee Ouest Lighthouse ARLHS MOR-040, Grid Square IM50) and Marrakech between 16 and 23 March. Operators mentioned (with call signs) to be active are Alfredo, IK7JWX (5C2J), Leo, I8LWL (5C2L), Simon, IZ7ATN (5C2SG), Ruggero, IK2PZC (5C2P), AntoNello, IK2DUW (5C2W) and Michele, IK2GPQ (5C2Q). Activity will be on all HF bands and 6 metres, using CW, SSB, PSK31 and RTTY. QSL via their home call sign.

Madeira Island, CT9, (AF-014). Operators Hardy, DL3KWF, and Rosel, DL3KWR, (XYL) will once again be active as CT9/homecall from the Hotel Royal Orchid between now and 25 March. Activity will be mainly CW on 30, 17 and 12 metres. Hardy is expected to try some RTTY and PSK-31. QSL via their home call signs. E-mail requests for Bureau QSL cards can be sent to dl3kwr@darc.de or dl3kwf@darc.de. Visit their Web site at <http://www.mydarc.de/dl3kwr>

Seychelles, S7. Operators Gav, GMOGAV, and Rob, GM3YTS, will be active as S79GM between 21 March and 1 April. Activity will be on all bands with an emphasis on the lower bands. Operations will be mainly CW with a possibility of some RTTY. They have tried to gain access to 7000 - 7050 kHz without any success, so look for them on 7050 or above and listening around 7025 kHz. They do have full access to 80 m. There is a S79GM blog and the operators plan to update their QSL frequencies on that page. The blog page is <http://s79gm.blogspot.com>. All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW immediately upon their return home and they hope to be able to upload their logs during the DXpedition to <http://www.clublog.org/charts/?c=S79GM>

Club News

The Overberg Amateur Radio Club will be holding their AGM at the Hermanus Magnetic Obser-





vatory starting at 10:00 CAT on 27 March. Visitors are welcome and the usual braai will be held afterwards.

ZS6PTA Mega Flea market on 27 March 2010. The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club Flea market will be held on Saturday 27 March 2010 from 08:00 to 11:00 CAT at the Pretoria Motor Club in Silverton. For further information or to book a table contact Almero du Pisani on cell number 082 908 3359 or send an email to almero@up.ac.za

The John Vorster Technological Secondary School Radio Club, ZS6JVT, will have a flea market stating at 08:30 CAT on Saturday 8 May 2010. The Club can be found at 1072 Meyer Street, Rietfontein, Pretoria.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 18 to March 2010.

SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest, 16:00 UTC
19 March to 12:59 UTC 20 March and 13:00
UTC 20 March to 12:00 UTC 21 March

The SARL VHF/UHF Analogue, 10:00 UTC 20
March to 10:00 UTC 21 March

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 18 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country
and NAQCC No or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-
member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province or country
once

Key Type Mult: 2x if straight key, 1.5x if
bug, 1x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 21 March 2010

E-mail logs to:

[naqcc33\[at\]windstream\[dot\]net](mailto:naqcc33[at]windstream[dot]net)

Post log summary at:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint_submit_log.html

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E.
High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at:

<http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201003.html>

10-10 International Mobile Contest
00:01 - 23:59 UTC 20 March

Mode: Any

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP

Max power: QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: Name, state, province or country,
10-10 number and US, VE and G county

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Counties

Score Calculation: Fixed: Total score = total
QSO points x total mults

Mobile: Total score = total QSO points x
(total mults and counties activated)

Submit logs by: 3 April 2010

E-mail logs to:

[tentencontest\[at\]roadrunner\[dot\]com](mailto:tentencontest[at]roadrunner[dot]com)

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 131 Valencia
Lane, Statesville, NC 28625, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRulesRevised.pdf>

BARTG HF RTTY Contest

02:00 UTC 20 March to 02:00 UTC 22
March

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m

Classes: Single Op Expert All Band; Single
Op All Band; Single Op All Band 6 Hours;





Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; SWL

Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours with at least 3 hour rest period; Single Op 6 Hours: 6 hours; Multi-Op: 48 hours

Exchange: RST, Serial No and 4-digit time (UTC)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: DXCC countries once per band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once per band; Continents once regardless of band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total country/area mults x continents

Submit logs by: 1 May 2010

E-mail logs to: [sk\[a\]t\[b\]artg\[dot\]org\[dot\]uk](mailto:sk[a]t[b]artg[dot]org[dot]uk)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.bartg.org.uk/documents/Contests/HF/BARTG%20HF%20Rules%202010.pdf>

Russian DX Contest

12:00 UTC 20 March to 12:00 UTC 21 March

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Single Op All Band CW - Low or High; Single Op All Band SSB - Low or High; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Ru: RS(T) and 2-character oblast; non-Ru: RS(T) and Serial No

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country same continent; Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with same country different continent; Ru Stations: 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with different continent; non-Ru Stations: 10 points per QSO with Ru station; non-Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country; non-Ru Stations: 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; non-Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with different continent; 5 points per QSO with /MM

Multipliers: Each oblast once per band; each country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 7 May 2010

E-mail logs to: [rdxc\[at\]srr\[dot\]ru](mailto:rdxc[at]srr[dot]ru)

Mail logs to: Russian DX Contest, PO Box 88, 119311 Moscow, Russia

Find rules at:

<http://www.rdx.org/asp/pages/rulesg.asp>

Oklahoma QSO Party

13:00 UTC 20 March to 01:00 UTC 21 March and 13:00 - 19:00 UTC 21 March

Mode: CW/Digital, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, Low or High; Multi-Single; Rover-Assisted; Rover-Unassisted; Rover-Multi-Xmtr

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: OK: RS(T) and County; non-OK: RS(T) and state, province or "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 3 points per Digital/CW QSO

Multipliers: OK: Each state, province, OK county once; non-OK: OK counties once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 April 2010

E-mail logs to: [logs\[at\]okdxa\[dot\]org](mailto:logs[at]okdxa[dot]org)

Mail logs to: Oklahoma QSO Party, OK DX Association, PO Box 2591, Claremore, OK 74018-2591, USA

Find rules at:

<http://okdxa.org/web/html/rules10.htm>

North Dakota QSO Party

18:00 UTC 20 March to 18:00 UTC 21 March

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 m

Classes: Fixed; Mobile; Out of State

Exchange: ND: RS(T) and County; non-ND: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO





Multipliers: ND Stations: each state, country and ND county once; Non-ND Stations: each ND county once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 1 May 2010

E-mail logs to: w0cq[at]arrl[dot]org

Mail logs to: W0CQ, c/o Lynn Nelson, K0LN, 6940 4th St. SW, Minot, ND 58701, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.w0cq.com/ndqsop.pdf>

Virginia QSO Party

18:00 UTC 20 March to 01:00 UTC 22 March

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile or expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Single - fixed, mobile or expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Multi - fixed, mobile or expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VA: Serial No and county; non-VA: Serial No and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 15 April 2010

E-mail logs to: vqp[at]verizon[dot]net

Mail logs to: VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167, USA

Find rules at:

http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2010_VQP/2010_VQP_Rules.html

9K 15-Metre Contest

12:00 - 16:00 UTC 21 March

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 15 m Only

Classes: Single Op SSB; Single Op CW

Exchange: RS(T) and Serial No

Work stations: Once

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each DXCC country once, Each 9K station once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 20 April 2010

E-mail logs to: 9k2rr[at]9kcc[dot]com

Mail logs to: Faisal N. Al-Ajmi, 9K2RR, PO Box 1124, Alfarwanya 80000, Kuwait

Find rules at:

<http://www.9k2hn.com/9kcc/9KCCRule.htm>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 22 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and Member No or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 28 March 2010

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.fpqr.com/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.fpqr.com/fpqrprun.php>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 24 March

CQ WW WPX SSB Contest, 00:00 UTC 27 March to 23:59 UTC 28 March

UBA Spring 2 m Contest, 07:00 - 11:00 UTC 28 March





This week in History

The week starting 15 March

1895 Lumiere Bros show the first movie show to a Paris audience.

1896 Prof Bragg X-rays his son William's injured elbow. First in Australia.

1902 N. Stubblefield first ship to shore wireless telephone broadcast.

1904 First colour picture in Daily Illustrated Mirror, New York.

1909 Einar Dessau of Denmark radios to a government radio post 10 km away. This is believed to have been the first broadcast by a ham operator.

1910 Harry Houdini makes Australia's first powered flight in Victoria.

1916 Anzac Corps lands in France during WW1.

Remember to share your copy of HF Happenings with your radio amateur friends and club members - even those you do not like.

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Maurice, F5NQL, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

